



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# WEST BANK/GAZA

## FACT SHEET

### EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Youth Entrepreneurship Development program (YED)

### PROJECT PROFILE

**JANUARY 2011**

#### **CHALLENGES**

- Lack of practical civic and work-related experiences available to youth.
- Lack of understanding as to what a particular program of study will include and how that will translate into a job.
- Limited relevance of education to the job market.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Karen Exel  
Director, Education Development  
Program  
USAID  
U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv  
71 Hayarkon Street  
Tel Aviv, 63903  
Tel: 972-3-511-4848  
Fax: 972-3-511-4888

Melissa Kennison  
Desk Officer  
Tel: (202) 712-4521  
Email: [mkennison@usaid.gov](mailto:mkennison@usaid.gov)

[www.usaid.gov/wbg](http://www.usaid.gov/wbg)

#### **Project Overview**

The YED program aims to prepare in and out of school youth in the age of 14-29 for the job market by equipping them with the employability and entrepreneurial skills needed to find employment in the public and private sector or to start their own businesses. The program will introduce innovative models for youth employment and entrepreneurial skill building that are commensurate with the needs of the knowledge economy, including e-commerce, virtual business incubators, call centers, ICT startups and electronic media.

At the end of the program, at least 10,000 youth in West Bank and Gaza will have improved employability skills and practical work experience. The program will significantly provide youth with opportunities for livelihood development.

#### **Goals**

- Strengthen the capacity of local youth serving institutions by enhancing their programs on employability and entrepreneurial skills to become competitive in local, regional, and global markets.
- Target in and out of school youth by providing them with a spectrum of programs that aim at enhancing their competitiveness in the labor market.

#### **Activities**

YED will support three program components: 1) Capacity Building to Youth Serving Institutions by increasing the capacity of selected Palestinian Youth Serving Institutions. These will deliver appropriate programs and best practices on youth employment and entrepreneurial education and skills; 2) Support for Employment and Entrepreneurial Education through training and career counseling/job fairs; and 3) Practical On-the-Job Training through internships and service learning through youth led community initiatives.

#### **Project Detail**

Implementing Partner: International Youth Foundation (IYF); Life of Project: 09/30/2010-09/30/2014; Total Estimated Cost: \$15,000,000